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# LETTER

To the Right Honourable

*James, Earl of Kildare,*

On the present Posture of Affairs.

With some occasional Reflections on the Conduct of a certain *Justice of Peace*, on Friday the 10th Instant.

*Forum plus non posse quam bonum Virum.*

SENEC. Epist. 88.

And you brave *Cobham*, to the latest Breath,  
Shall feel your ruling Passion strong in Death;  
Such in those Moments, as in all the past,  
"Oh save my Country, Heav'n!" shall be your last.

POPE's Epist. vol. 2. p. 75.

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The Second EDITION.

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D U B L I N :

Printed in the Year, M,DCC,LIV,

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THE

To the Right Honorable

James Earl of Kildare

Of the Privy Council of Ireland

With some occasional Reflections on the  
State of a certain Part of the  
King's Dominion

By the Hon. the Right Honourable  
James Earl of Kildare

07-2351

And now have I come to the last Part  
of this little Work, and I must  
leave my Country, "Hear ye, Hear ye"  
I have said, and I have said

The End and Edition



DUBLIN

Printed by J. M. DODD

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# LETTER

To the Right Honourable

*James, Earl of Kildare.*

My LORD,

**A**S no Man has shewed more Zeal for the Interest of his Country, nor with more Steadiness and Integrity of Heart supported our Laws and Liberties in the late Session of Parliament; I know no Person more fit to lay my Thoughts before, on the present critical Situation of Affairs, which undoubtedly, demands the Attention of every Man, that has the least Love for his Country, or is inspired with any Share of that Warmth, that glows ever in your noble Breast.

THAT



THAT your Lordship to the utmost of your Power, endeavoured to preserve your Country, when very unfair and unjustifiable Methods were taken, to undermine our Rights and Privileges, and the very Foundations and Principles of our Constitution and Government, is a Fact, that your Country, has now, and ever will, retain a just and grateful Sense of.

YOUR antient Nobility, great Honours, and ample Fortune, are scarcely seen or thought of, in the Glory and Lustre that surrounds you, from the universal Applause of your Country, who, on every public as well as private Occasion, declare their high Approbation of your Conduct.

I COULD, with the greatest Pleasure, enlarge on these Subjects; but, my Lord, I must hasten to one, that I am certain will be much more agreeable to your Lordship.

I MUST own, during the late Sessions, I was for some Time in Suspence, how to form my Judgment of the several different Schemes that were carrying on, till the great and important Event of the MONEY-BILL, the fatal and dangerous Tendency of which has, in a very full and masterly Manner, been already treated of by that worthy and honest Patriot, Sir *Richard Cox*, late Collector of *Corke*, who bore his Share in that ever memorable Opposition of 1753, and did, with equal Zeal and Abilities, support the Privileges of his Country.

As this is a Question of the utmost Weight and Moment, and does in a good Measure stand as yet undetermined, I must beg the Favour



your of your Lordship's Attention, whilst I take this Opportunity of adding some further Observations on that Subject.

It has been ignorantly and falsely asserted by the Author of a Pamphlet, intitled CONSIDERATIONS on the MONEY-BILL, Page 17th, " That the Crown was evidently " under this Dilemma, either to make the " Alteration, or to give up the Right in " Question, &c." Surely he can't imagine any Man so weak, as not to see through the Fallacy of the Arguments he makes Use of, on that Occasion.

Is it not, my Lord, self-evident, that the P—r—ve of the C—n continues the same, and that the original Power and Trust that is lodged in his M——y by our Laws and Constitution of applying the Money given by Parliament in the Receipt of his M——y's Treasury for any publick and national Uses, remains exactly on the same Footing as formerly. My Lord, the passing of that Act, was at once declaring, that all our Money was at the whole and sole Disposol of his M——y and his M——ry, and not passing the Act, gave our Enemies an Opportunity, to bring us immediately under his M——y's Resentment, by the false and groundless Insinuations of our being unloyal and undutiful.

It has been said in a *Letter to the Publick*, " that our unhappy Disputes were not about " Essentials, but merely about Forms and " Words," and this Doctrine has been very industriously propagated; but Men of as good Heads and Hearts as the Author of that Letter,

ter, have upon mature Deliberation thought otherwise, as well as the Majority of the House of Commons. It is granted, my Lord, that the Word **CONSENT**, being inserted in the Preamble, gave the Alarm to the House, and we all know the Consequences of that Alarm. Now I shall endeavour, with as much Clearness as possible, to shew, what an essential Difference the inserting of that Word made.

WE can have no Act of Parliament, without the King's **CONSENTING**; but on the late important Occasion, it was justly apprehended, that the inserting that Preamble, would give the C——n a greater and more unlimited Power over the Treasury, than it had by our original Constitution; for if that was not the Intention, why was it inserted? surely omitting it left the Prerogative as before. I think myself clearly right, when I assert, that the Preamble, with the Words previous **CONSENT**, enlarged the Power of the C——n, but the omitting of them, as they certainly were in the Bill of 1749, on the like Occasion, did not in any Respect diminish or alter the Prerogative.

AND here, my Lord, I must observe, that the passing of the above Bill, without the previous **CONSENT**, is a very good Counterpoise for our unwarily passing the Bill in 1751, with the Words previous **CONSENT**, which Precedent, the Gentlemen who are so zealous for the Prerogative, rely much upon.

IT is true, we passed that Act as was desired, but we now see our Error, and I hope will be more wise and cautious for the future.

My Lord,

My Lord, be pleased to observe, that the grand Question in Dispute is shortly this; whether the Trust of applying the Money given by the Parliament to the Crown, without any special Appropriation, and in the actual Receipt of his Majesty's Treasury, is, by the Laws and Constitution of this Kingdom, vested in the Crown for publick Services? and the Queries arising from this Question, are these; first, whether his Majesty's previous CONSENT must be obtained, to the applying of the Money in the Receipt of his Majesty's Treasury? Secondly, whether the Parliament have not a Right to dispose of the Money in the Treasury, for the publick Services, without any further Concurrence of his Majesty, than his barely consenting in a Parliamentary Way to pass the Act. I conceive, it will greatly conduce to the clearing up of this Question, to consider the State of our Revenue, since the Time of K. *Charles II.* The Parliament did in the Year 1662, being the 15th of his Reign, for the sake of having their Grants confirmed by the Crown, grant an hereditary Revenue for the Support of his Majesty's Government, with several Clauses and Restrictions in those Acts, against alienating or misapplying the publick Money, either in Pensions, Grants, or otherwise. The hereditary Duties amount to above 400,000*l.* per annum, and have ever proved insufficient to support the Exigencies of Government; for which Reason, the People (by their Representatives in Parliament) have been obliged to grant additional Duties, from two Years to



two Years, amounting to above 160,000*l.* per annum.

By this Means, there has been a blended Revenue, (if I may so call it) an hereditary one ever since the Time of K. *Charles II.* and an annual or temporary one, to support the Deficiencies of the former.

AFTER the Revolution, the Army was new modelled, and the Expence of the Government greatly encreased by the additional Forces, put on the Irish Establishment, (I think the Number was 12,000) both the above united Funds proved insufficient to support the Exigencies of Government, and of Consequence a large Debt was contracted. In the Year 1716, the national Debt was about 50,000*l.* and in the Year 1729, it swelled up to so great a Sum as 300,000*l.* and at that Time, and not before, our Parliament made a Provision for that Debt, and allowed Interest for it. It appearing then, that the Redundancies of the several united Funds, would prove insufficient to discharge the Debt that was contracted, or the Arrears upon the Establishment, they made Provision of appropriated Duties, commonly called Loan Duties, for the Payment of Principal and Interest of the said Debt. I mean by appropriated Duties, those that were appropriated and appointed at that Time by Act of Parliament, for the particular Purpose of discharging the national Debt, and paying the Interest 'till it was discharged. So then, you see, my Lord, the Parliamentary Faith was, from that Period of Time, pledged and engaged for the Payment  
of

of the national Debt ; from these Premises and undoubted Facts, I draw this fair and plain Conclusion ; that this Debt so contracted and so secured, it could never be thought in Law or Reason, as Part of the King's Trust, (during the Operation and Continuance of those Funds) to pay off the Debt which was secured by Parliament, and for which the public Faith was engaged.

THE Money was never borrowed on the Royal Credit, but on the several Votes of Credit passed by the Parliament. We all know, that in almost every Reign, from the Time of *Edward II.* down to the Time of *Poyning's Law*, in *Henry VII.* Reign, there were Acts passed, declaring the Power of the People, of granting the publick Money, in such Manner and for such Purposes, as they thought proper, and that any Redundancy in the Treasury was the Property of the Nation, and might be disposed of, in Discharge of the national Debts. Nay this Right was carried so far, that in many Acts, (both before and since *Poyning's Law*) it is expressly declared, that the King has no Right to dispose of the Money appointed by Parliament, and limit the C——n from any Alienations, Grants, Pensions, or Incumbrances whatever, of the Funds appointed for publick Uses.

WAS there any Occasion for further Proof of this Privilege in the People, I am certain I could support it by many Cases from our most authentick Law Books, but I think it unnecessary to trouble your Lordship with them.

DURING the whole Time of my Lord *Harrington's* Administration, there was no Mention made of his Majesty's previous CONSENT, but the Money Bills passed in the usual Form, and the Duties appointed by Parliament, for discharging the national Debt, continued: The first Introduction of the Words previous CONSENT, was made in the Preamble of the Bill in 1751, that continued the Loan Duties.

THE Parliament were under a Necessity of winking at the Alteration, and passed the Act, as certainly, at that Time, it would have hurt publick Credit very much, to have put a Negative on the Bill, as it was blended with the Fund that was to support it; or perhaps they were not sufficiently apprehensive of the Consequences.

THE Loan Duties being dropped in 1753, there was no apparent Provision from that Fund, for the Remainder of the national Debt, and of Consequence it must be understood exactly in the same Light it was before that Provision was made for it by Parliament; I mean that it was a national Debt, contracted on Parliamentary Faith, and was to be discharged by Parliament; for it was undoubtedly a real Lien, (as the Law terms it) on all our Funds, and both the C——n and Parliament were bound in Honour and Justice to pay it off. From the above Premisses, I think, I may draw this fair Conclusion; that the Trust which is vested in the C——n, of applying the Money in his Majesty's Treasury for publick Services, being always considered as a Parliamentary Fund, ought by the Laws and Constitution



stitution of this Kingdom, to be applied in Discharge of those Debts, which were contracted on Parliamentary Faith, and that his M——y's Governors and Ministers are accountable to the People, for any Misapplication of the publick Money; for it is a Maxim in Law, that the King can do no Wrong, and therefore his Officers must be liable and accountable for their Actions.

I THINK there is another Argument, that will greatly confirm the Principles I contend for; namely, that his Majesty's Officers in the Treasury, have, from the Time of the Revolution down to this Day, ever made up their Accounts for the Redundancy in the Treasury, as a Ballance due to the Nation, and of Course accountable to Parliament for it. Have not the Parliament, by an hundred Acts, tacitly declared, that the Savings in the Treasury was the Property of the Nation, and to be disposed of for national Services? did they not this last Sessions grant several thousand Pounds for publick Uses? and yet the Author of the Pamphlet on the *Considerations on the Money Bill*, has dared to assert, "that his M——y is the Judge of the Occasion, the Time, and the Sum," and the Reason he gives, is, "that he solely has the executive Power, and knows the various Exigencies of Government, and which of them ought to have the Preference in the Application." I will venture to tell that Gentleman, whoever he be, that his Reason is as ridiculous as his Assertion is false; he has certainly endeavoured as far as he could, with

with bad Law and worse Reasoning, to destroy our Constitution and Privileges, and were he known, I doubt not but that the Parliament would think it necessary, next Sessions, to call him to an Account, for the many unparliamentary Principles he has advanced.

I SHALL and will ever contend for it, that if ever the Parliament are unwarily induced, by any Craft, to pass any Act, that either tacitly or expressly acknowledges any Power or Prerogative in the C——n, to dispose of the Money in his M——y's Treasury, in any other Manner, or for any other Purposes, than as I have before mentioned, they do from that Hour give an unconstitutional Power to any evil or corrupt Ministers, to dispose of the publick Money, and at the same Time, screen and protect them from any Parliamentary Censure, or even Inquiry, under the Colour of the Right being acknowledged.

WE still, God be praised, in a great Measure, inherit the Liberty and Privileges of our Mother Country, of Great Britain; and the Essence of that Liberty is, that we by our own Consent, (by our worthy Representatives in Parliament) grant the annual and temporary Supplies, and have a Right to apply the Money when raised, in whatever Manner is thought to conduce most to the publick Service; and I hope I have fully shewed, how fatal it would be to that Liberty and Privilege, to give up the present Question, and that it would strike at the very Root of our Laws and Constitution, and change the very Nature and Essence of both. Surely,

we

we will not be so weak or pusillanimous, to be intimidated with the foolish Reports and wicked Insinuations, that are industriously spread, (by those, whose Interest it is to propagate them) that our not complying with such dangerous Measures, will offend our good Neighbours in England, that perhaps they will dissolve our Parliament, cramp us more in our Trade, or make an English Act to destroy our Constitution.

THESE are meer visionary Notions, and will never come to pass; for they very well know, that such violent Steps would in a great Measure, endanger their own Rights and Liberties, as such Incroachments on ours, would be fatal to theirs; for it has long been a political Maxim, that those who have any Scheme for invading or undermining the Laws and Constitution of England, must begin with Ireland.

It is a most grievous and melancholy Truth, that the Majority of the House of Commons of Ireland, were represented to his M——y and the M——y in England, as a Popish and Jacobite Party, that were endeavouring to destroy his M——y's P—r—ve.

I wish some Gentlemen would be pleased to reflect, who are near his M——y's Person, and compare their Families and Actions, and the Principles they have been educated in, with his M——y's faithful C——s of Ireland, and I flatter myself, it will soon appear, on which Side the Ballance is to be struck, in favour of Zeal and Loyalty to his most gracious Majesty. I have the strongest  
Conviction



Conviction of Mind, and will venture to say I have sufficient Foundation for my Conviction, that we have been represented to the M——y in England, as seditious and rebellious.

MY God ! how wicked must the Hearts of those Men be, who used their utmost Endeavours to ruin us in his M——y's Favour, by representing the loyal and faithful Subjects of Ireland as factious and seditious.

SURELY his M——y and our good Friends in England, have not so soon forgot our Zeal and Loyalty in the late Rebellion, when under our truly wise and faithful Governor, the Earl of *Chesterfield*, we joined, with united Hearts and Hands, to support his Majesty's Crown and Dignity; being truly sensible how closely united they are with our Rights and Liberties, and that any Incroachment on the one, must be destructive to the other.

DID we not on that Occasion, by every solemn and publick Act, give ten thousand Demonstrations of our Zeal and Loyalty? Did not his Majesty, and his truly faithful patriot Viceroy, declare their unfeigned Thanks for our Conduct? was not his Majesty graciously pleased to receive your Lordship at Hanover, with the highest Marks of Esteem and Regard?

DID any Nobleman in Great Britain, with more Chearfulness and Alacrity, offer to raise a Regiment at his own private Expence, for his Majesty's Service in the late Scotch Rebellion? and is it not well known, that his Majesty approved of your Conduct on that Occasion?

I SHOULD

I SHOULD be glad to ask any Man, that dare impeach our Loyalty for his Majesty, if in all the Troops that were headed at the Battle of Dettingen, by the illustrious Hero of the House of Hanover, that Father of his People, and Guardian of our Rights and Liberties, if any Officers or Soldiers in the whole Army, fought more bravely and gallantly on that Day, or in any of the Battles that have been fought since, in Flanders or in Scotland, than his Majesty's Irish Troops?

HAVE we not on all Occasions, in Peace as well as in War, taken every Opportunity of shewing our ready Concurrence, in every wise and prudent Measure for the Support of his Majesty's Government?

HAVE we not, with the utmost Readiness and Chearfulness, always granted the necessary Supplies for his Majesty's Service? and shall any T——r to his Country's Honour and Interest, that dare so falsely misrepresent us, meet with the least Countenance or Credit? should he not rather be disgraced and dismissed from all Favour and Employments, and be equally detested and abhorred, by every Friend to his Majesty and our Country.

THERE is so little Colour or Foundation for the Insinuations, that certainly, I give them too much Weight, to answer them with serious Arguments.

I wish those to whom we have been misrepresented, would be pleased to reflect on the Conduct of the Protestants of Ireland, at the Time of the happy and glorious Revolution of 88, and I'm confident, it will appear



pear in every Period down to the present Days, upon the strictest Scrutiny, to be most truly loyal and steady to his Majesty. Shall our Honourable and loyal House of Commons, because they would not Consent, by a solemn Act of Parliament, to give up all the publick Money, that was now, or hereafter might be, in his M——y's T——y, to the absolute Disposal of the present, or any future M——y, be branded with the infamous and detestable Title, of a Popish and Jacobite Party?

BUT, we trust in God, and the Merits of our Cause, we shall not meet with such hard and unjust Treatment; but that we shall continue to have the Confidence of his most gracious M——y, which has ever been our greatest Pride and Happiness, and I doubt not, we shall, on any Occasion, be ready to lay down our Lives and Fortunes, to prove how highly we esteem his M——y's Countenance and Favour.

It is strange to think, how far the Resentment of those in Power was carried, against those who so resolutely voted in the Interest of their C——y. I can't avoid observing to your Lordship, that there are few Instances (if any) in the present or former Times, either in this poor half-ruined, bankrupt Country, or in the flourishing Kingdom of Great-Britain, where it has ever been denied, that the Majority of the House of Commons, on any Question that ever was solemnly debated in either House of Parliament, has not been looked upon as the general Sense of the whole Nation. I must further observe to your Lordship,



ship, there are few Instances (if any) where Members of the House, (except by the Influence of arbitrary and corrupt M——s,) were turned out of their Posts and Preferments, barely, because they gave their Votes on any Matter in Debate, according to the Dictates of their Hearts; that the latter has been the Case in the late Removes, is so well known, that I am confident, no one will venture to deny it. Men of the most undoubted Abilities and Integrity, and who had long served his Majesty, and supported his Crown and Dignity, dismissed and disgraced, as if guilty of the highest Breaches of Honour and Trust; Men put in their Places, by no Means equal to 'em in Abilities, or so well able to support his M——y's Service.

The S——r of the H——e of C——ns, after above 20 Years faithful and dutiful Service to his M——y and his Country, dismissed, because with equal Wisdom and Integrity, like a wise and skilful Pilot, he conducted the State, and held the Helm of a great and noble Vessel, and guided her safe through Storms and Perils. But, Sir, let this be your Comfort, that though you have lost your Employment, you have gained immortal Honour, and the Hearts of your Countrymen, and will ever be esteemed and remembered with the highest Veneration and Gratitude.

I do, with the greatest Satisfaction, congratulate you, on the late publick and solemn Testimony you received, of the Love and Esteem your Fellow-Citizens have for you. I am confident, future Times will stand amazed at the History of the present.

WHAT has past since the rejecting of that Act, incontestibly shews, how disappointed those in P——r were, at the Negative that passed on that Bill; but though they grieved, we, who had the Interest of our poor Country at our Hearts, shewed by several Demonstrations of Joy, the Sense we had of our happy Deliverance.

WILL any one that pretends to the least Ray of Reason or Common-Sense, after what has past, doubt a Moment what was the Designs of those, who advised the inserting the Preamble to that Bill? and shall we not now, by all Ways and Means in our Power, take every Opportunity of shewing our Love and Attachment to those who saved us from Destruction, and preferred the Interest of their dear Country, to all other Considerations? I trust, and doubt not, that the same Spirit and Resolution will continue in all the Friends and Patriots of Ireland, and that they will never desert the glorious Cause they have already triumphed in.

My Lord, to have our Conduct approved of by wise and virtuous Men, and what is commonly called a Thirst for Fame, is a Principle implanted in the human Breast, and wisely designed, by the Author of our Being, to stir us up to noble and virtuous Actions, and to do Things worthy of the Esteem and Approbation of our Fellow-Creatures; and every Man feels this Passion, the more in Proportion, as his Reason is exalted by Nature, or refined by Philosophy: as to the Truth of this Doctrine, I appeal to your own worthy Heart.

Heart. Now, my Lord, if these be true Principles founded on the Nature of our Existence, surely, we ought ever to hold in honourable Remembrance, all those truly great and worthy Patriots, who so remarkably distinguished themselves in the Cause of their Country, in the late Sessions of Parliament.

PRAISE and Approbation are the true Reward for their faithful and good Services ; for they have given you Demonstration, that they prefer those to all other Rewards or Benefits. As I am certain this Doctrine is of the utmost Importance to Society, and the Well-being of our poor Country, I must dwell a little more upon it, and shew your Lordship, that all wise and well governed States, have since the earliest Ages of the World, down to this Time, put this Doctrine into Practice. There is no Manner of Doubt, but that the original Idolatry and Superstition of the Heathen Nations, took its Source from the Veneration they had for their departed Heroes ; flattering themselves with the pleasing Idea, that they who had served Mankind, when in this World, would have in the next the same Ability and Inclination to continue their good Offices ; and your Lordship very well knows, they carried this Doctrine so far, as to attribute a Kind of Divinity to their departed Heroes, and even raised Altars and offered Sacrifices to them ; all proceeding from a well-meant Respect for the Memory of their Benefactors. Our own Ancestors, (I hope your Lordship will pardon the Freedom) the antient Celts and Picts in the earliest Ages, instituted their Bards, to celebrate and  
transmit



transmit to Posterity, the noble and worthy Actions of their Heroes, and even deified them in their Songs and Panegyrics, many of which yet remain; and they carried this Scheme so far, that we all know, there were regular Colleges and Foundations for supporting them.

THE antient Jews, as well as the primitive Christians, practised this Custom, as might be very fully and clearly proved, were there any Occasion. In every Period of the Greek and Roman History, this Practice strongly prevails; but, my Lord, I shall take up no more of your Time on this Head, only observe, that all wise and well-regulated States, have shewed of what Importance they thought it was to pay a due Veneration and Respect, to those who deserved well of their Country; and I trust, we shall follow the laudable and wise Example.

I MUST not forget to observe, that the preventing our Hon: House of Commons from meeting after the ordinary Recess, was a Proceeding greatly to our Prejudice, and ever to be lamented; (and was never practised here, since the Time of that arbitrary and wicked Governor, Sir *Constantine Phipps*) for the House was, by that Finesse, deprived of the Opportunity of justifying themselves before the Throne, and of addressing his most gracious Majesty, with a true Spirit of Zeal and Loyalty, and of putting ourselves in a true and just Light.

THE dreadful Effects of the late Proceedings, are too sensibly felt by all the Inhabitants of this poor Country; a general Scarcity  
of

of Money, a Stagnation of all Trade and Commerce, and the many publick and private Bankruptcies are too clear Proofs of the terrible Situation we are in; and I might add, the terrible Apprehensions of lying under the Load of his Majesty's Displeasure. My Lord, there is an easy and plain Cure for all our Grievs and Fears, namely, to let our Acts pass in the usual Forms; to encourage our foreign Trade and domestic Commerce; (and particularly that useful and important Part, the *Woolen Manufacture*) to support our DUBLIN SOCIETY by Parliamentary Aids; and lastly, to encourage our Tillage, by large Præmiums distributed in every County; then would we soon be a happy and flourishing People, and able to supply the Government with Millions instead of Thousands.

I COME, in the next Place, to take Notice of the most extraordinary and illegal Conduct of a certain *Justice of Peace* in this City, on Friday the 10th Inst. who rebelliously and seditiously, by Beat of Drum and Sound of Trumpet, raised a drunken and armed Mob, and headed them, (like another \* *Jack Straw*) through the Earl of Meath's Liberty, through the City, and down the Quays, to the great Terror of his Majesty's peaceable and liege Subjects, as well as the Hazard of their Lives and Properties. I shall venture to affirm, that such Acts are subversive of all Order, Law, and Society, and are most audacious Incroach-

\* See *Rapin's History of England*, vol. 1. p. 457. A curious Account of this Rebel and Traytor.

ments on our Laws and Liberties, and in their Head and Ringleader has been guilty of High Treason by the Laws of the Land. This same Justice, in the Year 1751, made himself very remarkable, by publickly assuming the Character of a Queller of Mobs and Riots; and often fomented them, and then raised greater Mobs and Riots to quell them; endeavouring, by such unlawful Means, to recommend himself to the publick as a very necessary Member of Society.

AFTER having, for some Months, puffed his surprizing Feats and Atchievements this Way, in the publick Papers; he so far prevailed in his wicked Scheme, as to get a Pension of one hundred Pounds per annum; he, no Doubt, followed the Example, (and I am sorry to say it,) had the same Success, that his Predecessor Justice *Devail* had some Time ago in London.

IN the Year 1752, he did, as on the late publick Occasion, raise and march another dangerous and rebellious Mob; and I am well informed, (for I endeavour, to the utmost of my Power, to adhere strictly to Truth) to encourage several of his wicked and lawless Crew to enlist under his Banners, that he tore several Examinations that were lodged before him for various Crimes and Misdemeanors, contrary to his Oath and Duty as a Magistrate, and contrary to his Allegiance as a Subject, to the great Encouragement of Wickedness and Vice, as well as to his favourite Project, which could not be carried on by any other Means. It is certain, that this same dangerous Member of Society, did on the late Occasion, for several Weeks, daily entertain



entertain many Hundreds of his Associates in Drunkenness and Riot, and had several publick Houses open for their free Entertainment, at a great Expence, by no Means suitable to his private Fortune or Circumstances; but to the great Advantage of his favourite Scheme, and, no Doubt, much to his own Emolument, and most certainly, to the great Loss and Prejudice of Trade and Business, already at too low an Ebb. And here I must by the Way observe, (as that worthy Patriot, Doctor MADDEN, has often done before) that it is a most grievous and melancholy Thought, how little Encouragement those industrious and useful Members of Society, the *Woolen Weavers*, meet with; it is true, that important Branch of our Manufacture is under the greatest Discouragement by the Laws; but, my Lord, there is no Law against wearing our own Manufactures; and I wish your Lordship would be so good to promote an Association for that Purpose, which I am confident, if your Lordship set the Example, would be signed and supported by many Thousands.

It is certain, that many Gentlemen, and Freemen of the City, were threatened to have their Throats cut, by several of this insolent Mob, if they spoke a Word, or did any Act, that shewed the least Opposition to their riotous Proceedings. They were the lowest and most wretched of our poor Inhabitants, and I am well informed, that many of them stood indicted and outlawed for various Crimes and Offences. It was falsely and maliciously reported, that several of our in-

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dustrious

dustrious Manufacturers and Weavers, were Part of that wretched Crew, which had such an Effect upon all that useful Class of our Inhabitants, that they thought it necessary to make a solemn and melancholy Procession through the whole City the Monday following, in a peaceable, decent and modest Manner; lamenting with Sighs and Groans, the Concern they were under, for being suspected to be Part of such a wicked lawless Mob, as well as on Account of their distressful Circumstances. The Day happened to be as calm as their Proceedings, and I am well informed, their Sighs and Groans were echoed by the opposite Shore. Now, will any one be so foolish and ignorant as to say, that what they did was unlawful or punishable? the Writer of this Letter knows the Law perhaps as well as those that say so, and ventures to assure his poor Countrymen, that their Conduct that Day was lawful and right, and the properest Method of publickly justifying themselves; and as the Law protects them, they need fear no Man, let him be ever so great, angry, or wicked.

I CAN'T help trembling, when I reflect what might have been the fatal and dreadful Consequence, had this audacious Mob met with Opposition; had my Lord Mayor (as he had a Right to do) gone at the Head of his Peace Officers and Constables, to seize their Ring-leader, and oppose their Proceedings; or acted like that brave and worthy Lord Mayor of London, *William Wallworth*, who in the Reign of R. II. did with a true Spirit of Loyalty and Courage, strike that insolent Rioter and Traitor,

tor, *Wat. Tyler*, dead at his Feet, with one bold and well executed Blow, discharged on the Head of that insolent Rebel, to the imminent Danger of his Life, for *Tyler* was at the Head of 30,000 Men. Your Lordship very well knows, of what dangerous and fatal Consequences such Mobs have been, to several modern as well as antient States; many are the Instances in History, of whole Nations being overturned, and losing their Laws and Liberties by such Practices; the Instances are innumerable, of the dreadful Commotions and Disorders that have arose from such Proceedings; and is it not amazing, that such a Wretch shall escape unpunished, in a civilized and well-regulated State, where the Laws still take their usual Course,

SHALL our Governors, our Officers of Justice, or our Grand-Juries, pass by such an open Outrage on our Laws and Liberties, when the Redress and Remedy is so plain and easy? Shall the Gentlemen of the Law see such Acts done, in Defiance of all Law and Justice, and not publicly shew their Disapprobation and Resentment, for such unlawful and insolent Behaviour?

I AM well convinced, if any of those unlawful Acts came supported by proper Affidavits, (on a Petition) before our able and learned Chancellor, he would certainly strike him out of the Commission of the Peace.

I HAVE taken up too much of your Time, and indeed have so many other Avocations, that if I had not a most lively and strong Sense of our Grievances, and the warmest Resentment against  
this



this wretched and lawless Member of our Society, for his late audacious Acts, and also apprehended the dreadful Consequences that might attend such Practices for the future, I should not otherwise, by any Means, have troubled your Lordship with him or his Mob.

I SHALL only beg your Lordship and the candid Reader to believe me, when I declare, in the most solemn Manner, that a Love for Justice and Truth, and a Zeal for the true Interest and Welfare of my Country, were the only Motives of my troubling them with this Letter ; and therefore, I hope they will be so indulgent as to overlook the many Faults, that may appear to their better Judgments.

I MUST conclude as I begun, with paying my best Respects to your Lordship ; and I am certain it will not be thought a Compliment but a known Truth, that my Motto, "*Jovem plus non posse,*" "*&c.*" may be justly applied to your Lordship. I am with the most sincere Gratitude, and Thanks for your late generous and noble Conduct in the Cause of your Country,

*Your very faithful,*

*and most obedient Servant,*

A PATRIOT.

F I N I S.



